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# Internet Overview

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# The Beginnings

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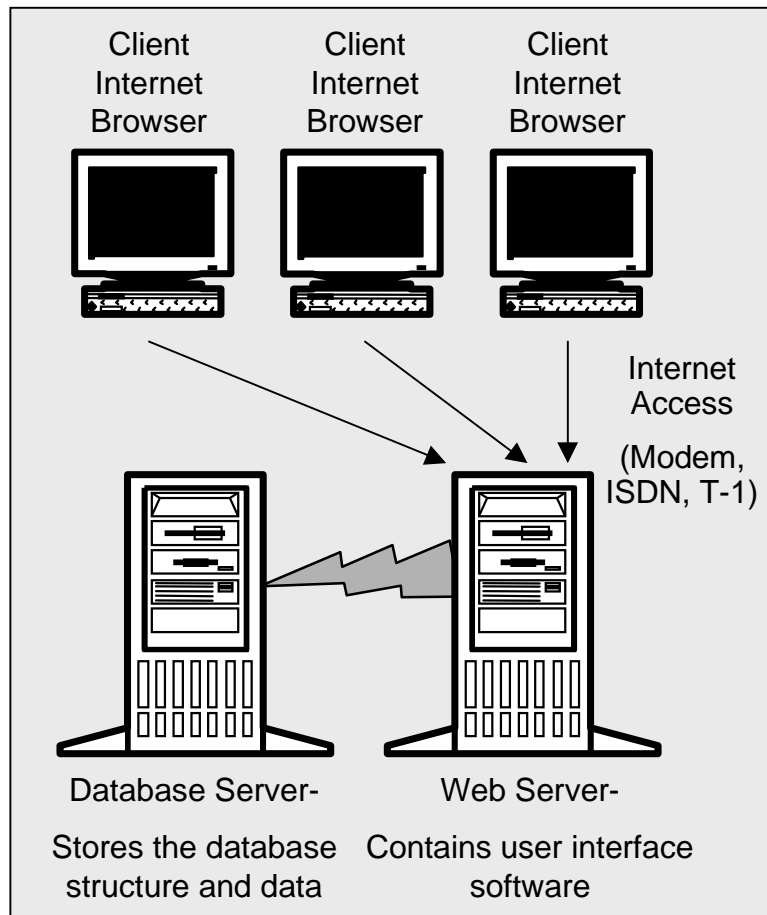
- Began in 1969 by the Advanced Research Project Agency (Department of Defense)
- Initially used for specialized research applications
- Over the years it has grown into a large public network of information and linked computers

# The Basics

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- The Internet supports a variety of services
  - Email
  - File transfers
  - Access to large quantities of information
- The Internet is dramatically changing the way people do business and obtain information
  - Business and commerce
  - Political
  - Social

# Internet Technology



- The Internet operates through a series of hardware, software, and communications components called a Client-Server architecture
  - Individual personal computers run the *client* software that connects to the *Web server* computer
  - The most popular *client* software programs (browsers) include Microsoft Internet Explorer and Netscape Navigator

# The World Wide Web (WWW)

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- The WWW is the easiest and most widely used way to access information on the Internet
- The WWW consists of individual web pages that are inter-linked via the Internet
  - Provide a graphical representation of information
  - Provide “hyperlinks” to other web pages and data sources

# Internet Usage and Speed

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- A common issue with the Internet and WWW usage is speed
- Speed depends on a number of factors
  - Modem or connection speed (bandwidth)
  - Other traffic on the Internet
  - Size of the files being transferred
  - Type of “server” application being accessed